DECONTAMINATION OF FIRE FIGHTING PPC



Firefighters have statistically higher rates of several types of cancer compared to the general population. Proper cleaning and decontamination of firefighting gear can significantly reduce exposure to harmful carcinogens.

Proper cleaning and decontamination practices are essential to ensure that protective clothing remains effective and that firefighters are not exposed to additional risks. stats from: ufua.asn.au/ufua-firefighter-cancer-foundation/

ARG'S DECONTAMINATION PROCESS

ARG is committed to supporting firefighters and emergency responders with high quality decontamination solutions that promote long term health and well being.

ROUTINE ADVANCED CLEANING

• Conducted up to twice a year at a professional facility to prevent degassing and degradation of protective gear, extending its lifespan and effectiveness.

ON-SCENE DECONTAMINATION

- Performed immediately post incident or training to minimise exposure to harmful contaminants.
- To prevent cross-contamination, all used PPE should be placed in chemical waste bags.
- Responders should shower as soon as possible using *Smoke Soap* body wash or bars for thorough skin decontamination.

RETURN TO SERVICE ADVANCED CLEANING

• Full machine and chemical decontamination at a professional facility, ensuring PPE is properly cleaned and safe for reuse

PRE-MADE DECONTAMINATION KITS

Designed to help your team carry out effective decontamination on-site, ARG's Personal Decon Kits provide the essential tools needed to reduce exposure risks and maintain emergency responder safety.

TESTICULAR CANCER: 2.02x Multiple Myeloma: 1.53x Skin Cancer: 1.39x



BRAIN CANCER: 1.31x PROSTATE CANCER: 1.28x COLON CANCER: 1.21x

STAY SAFE, STAY PROTECTED WITH ARG.

ARG DECONTAMINATION PROCESS

ON-SITE DECON

After an incident, personnel should use the ARG Personal Decon Kit, which includes decontamination wipes to remove harmful toxins from exposed skin (face, hands, neck) before removing their gear. This crucial first step reduces chemical absorption and lowers the risk of contamination.

CLEAN PPE ROTATION

To maintain operational readiness, a clean set of PPE should always be available while contaminated gear undergoes professional decontamination. A proper rotation system ensures personnel always have access to safe, decontaminated equipment.



GARMENT DECON

Used and contaminated PPE should be regularly sent to ARG's professional cleaning services, where decontamination processes effectively eliminate deeply embedded toxins and residues that standard station washing cannot remove.

75% of proceeds from each garment we clean goes directly to the Firefighters Cancer Foundation of Australia (FCFA).

HAZMAT WASTE

To prevent cross-contamination, all used PPE should be placed in chemical waste bags, also included in the ARG Personal Decon Kit. These durable bags and zip tags ensure that hazardous residues are securely contained during transport and storage.

DEEP CLEAN

Once at the station, personnel should take a full-body shower using Smoke Soap products, specifically formulated to break down and remove contaminants and carcinogens from the skin. This step is critical in reducing long-term exposure risks.